



PALOLO NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 6

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 400 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813
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REGULAR MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2006 PALOLO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAFETERIA

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Darlene Nakayama called the meeting to order at 7 p.m., a quorum was present with seven (7) members.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Traver Carroll, Gladys Gerlich Hayes, Darlene Nakayama, Owen Nakao, Erin Sonsona, Michael Weinstein, Doug Wong, Rachel Shackelford (7:05), Joshua Stanbro (7:20), Carolyn Walther (7:07), Greg Pentecost (newly elected).

MEMBERS ABSENT: Earl Shiraki.

GUESTS: Glenn Takeuchi, Carol Lam and Kevin Honda (Servco Hawaii), Stephanie Kimura (Board of Water Supply), Detective Gerald Reese, Lt. Abner DeLima, Lt. A Tsukano, Officer M. Hozaki (Honolulu Police Department), Capt. Bernard Paloma and Firefighter Darrel Mau (Honolulu Fire Department), Toni Robinson and Joe Yasutake (Department of Parks and Recreation), Hal Barnes (Mayor's Representative), Representative Calvin Say, Lynne Ellen Hollinger (Baha'i Faith Center), Dave Gonzales (Olelo videographer), James Nekota, Milton Hutchison (MAAC), Ivan Hoe, Councilmember Ann Kobayashi, Joan Kadomoto (Senator Ihara's Office staff), Simmy Mc Michaels, Keoni Fox (Ali'i Wireless), Marie Richardson (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

Board members Shackelford and Walther arrived during this portion of the meeting (nine (9) members present).

BOARD VACANCIES: Chair Nakayama announced one vacancy each in Sub district 2 and 3. Greg Pentecost expressed interest in filling the vacancy in Sub district 2. Neighborhood Assistant Richardson verified his residency qualifications and he was asked to introduce and give a brief background of himself; followed by questions of the Board, which he answered enthusiastically.

Hayes moved, Carroll seconded to nominate Greg Pentecost to fill the vacancy in Sub district 2. The motion carried by unanimous consent. NA Richardson administered the Oath of Office and Pentecost was congratulated. (10 members are now present.)

CITY SERVICES:

Honolulu Police Department (HPD) – Officer Mark Hozaki: 1) reported for January (in Beats 762, 763, 764, 765) - 11 burglaries, 21 thefts, and 9 unauthorized entries to motor vehicles (UEMV); and for December – 16 burglaries, 11 thefts, and 4 UEMV's. 2) Also, included in the report were: District 7 – East Honolulu Narcotics/Vice Division Statistics and a Burglary Prevention Checklist.

Criminal Investigation Division: Det. Reese, at the last meeting talked about police enforcement and investigative efforts. Again, the suspect will thrive on "opportunity"; and he continues to encourage minimizing the effort. He also shared a few highlights that spanned from September 2005 to December 2005, involving a number of property crimes and arrests made, which were only general information given so not to jeopardize the investigations.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Areas where the statistics are up, is usually due to drug related.
2. In response concern whether HPD locks the bathrooms Palolo District Park is not an HPD matter. However, people need to be aware and call HPD right away if you see any suspicious activity.
3. HPD is trying to curb the speeding problem; there is a speed trailer located on 10th Avenue.



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Stanbro arrived during the above portion of the meeting (11 members present).

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) – Firefighter Darrel Mau reported: 1) for January – 1 vehicle fire, 18 medical and 1 miscellaneous call. Fire Safety Tip: Fire, Building, U.S. Postal Codes, along with City ordinances, state that all property owners shall place their house numbers in such a manner as to be readily seen from the street. Having your address plainly visible and legible from the street or road fronting your property will assist the Honolulu Fire Department and other first responders to locate you more quickly in the event of an emergency. 2) For December – 1 structure, 1 brush, 1 rubbish fire; 12 medical and 1 miscellaneous call. Fire Safety Tip: Every home should have a working smoke detector installed near each sleeping area and on every level. Since cooking vapors and steam can set off a smoke detector, the detector should be located away from the kitchen or bathroom. Wall-mounted detectors should be positioned 4 to 12 inches below the ceiling and away from air vents. The following results are from a survey conducted of 80,000 elementary schools students in which almost 48,000 responded: 87% of the homes had smoke detectors and 2% were not certain whether one existed. Of the 87%, 67% of the families tested their detector that month and only 71% of the smoke detectors were operational. This survey enforced our belief that, “Every home should have a working smoke detector installed near each sleeping area and on every level.”

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Mau responded that the fire hoses are: 1,000 feet long (four-inch hose), and 750 feet (two and half inch hose). Responding to a concern of having the ability to reach the home at the end of a long driveway, Mau indicated are adequate provisions/extensions for that purpose.
2. Fire hydrants are normally maintained by Board of Water Supply and not the HFD. The concern related particularly to the hydrant fronting 2001 9th Avenue.
3. Tonight, HFD was noticed driving around and looking for a house on Waiomao Road. This is an example of tonight's fire safety tip for January; regarding keeping your home address plainly visibly and legible from the street. A good idea suggested was to keep your landline because calling 911 it automatically shows the address of where the call originated.
4. Remember when positioning a smoke detector, it should be located 4 – 12 inches below the ceiling and away from any air vents.
5. While undergoing renovations, the Palolo Fire Station has been allowed to park at the Diamond Head Red Cross location.
6. A concern was raised whether HFD has access to the Palolo District Park Field should there be a helicopter medivac emergency. Capt. Paloma replied HFD does not have the key to unlock the chained entrance. However, HFD would cut the lock only as a last resort.

Board of Water Supply (BWS) – Stephanie Kimura reported: 1) one main break in January on Maluhia Street of a 16-inch cast iron pipe (79 years old). BWS is spending millions of dollars to replace them to insure reliable water service and help prevent main breaks; just one of the many ways BWS continues to be stewards of Oahu's precious water. 2) General Water Announcement: a) BWS has announced the 2006 Water Conservation Week Poster Contest for Oahu students kindergarten through Grade 6. Deadline for entries is Thursday, March 9; this year's theme is: “Each and Every Day I Save Water My Way.” For more details, call the Communications Office at 748-5041 or log on to: www.boardofwatersupply.com. b) March 5 – 11 is Detect-A-Leak Week on Oahu. BWS is asking everyone to check for leaks at home and work. Promotional flyers and Leak detection dye tablets for toilets will be available at BWS on Beretania Street, various hardware stores, and all satellite city halls. Also, fill out and mail in entry forms on the flyer to qualify for a free water audit. c) Water Saving Tip: Not turning off the water as you brush your teeth can use as much as four gallons of water each time!

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Kimura will report next month about the water main break on Waiomao Road that happened this month.

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2. The life span of the waters mains is about 50-years, but some of the water mains are nearing 70 years old.
3. Walther explained her wash water is not connected to the sewer, but let out onto her lawn. She asked how is her sewer cost based on water consumption when she doesn't use that much. Kimura said there is a program if you are using your water for irrigation and to contact the Sewer Department for more information.

City Parks and Recreation (DPR) – Joe Yasutake announced: 1) Spring Program Activities: Volleyball clinics and leagues for age categories: 5 – 7 years, 8 – 10 years, and 12 – 14 years; Basketball tournament at Kilauea Park (part of PAL – not City sponsored, but DPR supports the effort); annual Valentine's Dance on Friday, February 10; Girls Softball; a Fishing Derby coming in early March; stream cleanup on Saturday, April 8; and the MAC Center is looking for full-time volunteer and on-going funding.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. The stream cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, April 8 from 8 a.m. to noon.; Chair Nakayama is encouraging more Board participation.
2. Chair Nakayama touched on a previous discussion the need for a separate restroom for the recreation center. Yasutake indicated there is not need for a separate bathroom is not necessary because they share the restroom with the swimming pool. He also noted some stealing issues, but nothing serious like attacks, molestation, etc.

ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Mayor's Report – Hal Barnes: 1) will continue dialogue outside of the meeting with Walther regarding a water issue she had. He briefly noted it is a real concern for the people on the leeward side where there's not much irrigation. 2) The City is looking to roll out a plan to tie-in 911 calls from cell phones with GPS (Global Positioning System); and is working with the State for a 311 Non-Emergency System. 3) On Friday, February 24, 2005 is the State of the City Address and thereafter, submittal of the Mayor's Budget to City Council early March. 4) Mayor Hannemann is committed to recycling; meanwhile, the blue bins will be used for green waste collection twice a month.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. It would be great if people would drop their recyclables at the school recycling containers, however the misconception is that the schools don't make that much money from this effort. However, Shackelford was under the impression that the recycling programs at schools made money. Perhaps people could be encouraged to participate if the statistics were publicized of the effectiveness and success of the program. Barnes would check with the recycling coordinator, but his thought was that the recycling programs at the schools might have been run by the state.
2. Ho talked about the repaving of some streets in the Palolo area, and asked if they could finish repaving Palolo Avenue, which has gone undone for couple years now. Barnes knows of a very large appropriation in this year's upcoming CIP budget for road resurfacing. Although, he hasn't yet seen a schedule of streets being repaved in this area, road repaving and pothole repairs have been major this past year. Log on to the City's website at: www.honolulu.gov and click on "Online Services" to report any pothole concerns.
3. In response to the inquiry about initiatives to lower property taxes, Barnes explained there were two proposed initiatives to have the Charter Commission put on the ballots this coming fall, a proposal allowing people to get something on the ballot by obtaining signatures on a petition. But the Charter Commission will wait on the outcome of the lawsuit in the Supreme Court case in Kauai.

Councilmember Ann Kobayashi – Councilmember Kobayashi's monthly report was distributed and highlighted: 1) on her testimony favoring the abolishing of Housing and Community Development Corporation of Hawaii (HCDCH). 2) Working on several property tax relief measures to help residents. Some relief measures for this year include: implementing immediate relief; looking at a system which is fair to everyone; assisting those on low income; helping

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residents who rent; and review the way the City assess properties. 3) Finally, permission was given for a petition of signatures to address the issues with La'i Road and the handling of the setbacks, other problems. 4) The Mayor's budget will be coming before Council no later than March 7. If the Board has any ideas for CIP projects, please submit beforehand to Council.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Councilmember will bring a status list of CIP projects. She mentioned a park sprinkler project was cancelled at the last minute; it was only \$40,000, but will continue to work on it.
2. Already signed into law, you can either choose to pay your property tax or pay 4% of your income if you make \$50,000 or less, and no age limit. It would be applied for the August property tax payment.

Representative Calvin Say – Representative Say reported that the highlight of this year's legislature is on public education, housing, energy and the dependency on fossil fuels.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Shiraki is not present tonight, but asked Chair Nakayama to remind Representative Say about decreasing the gas prices. Say said there is discuss currently in the House to look at repealing the gas cap.
2. Comments conveyed: addressed not only conservation but also alternative energy such as: wind farms, geothermal, hydro electric and photovoltaic.
3. Shackelford would like to see more education about alternative energy measures, which could help to open people's minds, and encouraged showing support for the voter owned elections bill again this year.
4. Concerning education, Sonsona felt that schools repair and maintenance is great, but felt that the front line people need more of the comprehensive needs of which 3% goes to administration.

Senator Les Ihara – Joan Kadamoto had nothing to report, but was available for questions. No questions followed.

Governor's Report – No representative was present.

NEW BUSINESS/PRESENTATIONS:

Cingular Wireless is apply for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) and Height Waiver at 2007 Palolo Avenue (Palolo Valle Gym) - Keoni Fox, of Ali'i Wireless Specialists and representing Cingular Wireless is looking to improve cell phone coverage in the back area of the valley. They are proposing the installation and operation of communications equipment at Palolo District Park (gymnasium) at 2007 Palolo Avenue. The project will consist of five (5) new equipment cabinets, which will be fenced in at the rear of the gym in an area not used by the park/community; and six (6) panel antennas mounted to the gym structure itself; (3) panels will be facing the rear of Waiomao Valley, and three (3) facing down toward Palolo Avenue. The design is believed to minimize any effects to the community. The cabinets will be 5-feet tall by 3-feet by 3-feet; the antennas are 70-inches tall, narrow, flat, and mounted to the column and painted to match the gym.

Fox indicated that notices were sent to adjacent property owners. He is hoping to get input from the community of any concerns and to get the Board's support for the project.

Discussion followed: 1) Fox clarified the antenna will be flush mounted to the wall and not to exceed the height of the gym. Because of the design and depth of the antennas will blend in well within the grooves of the columns. 2) The thought of sharing antenna use with other companies would be ideal, however, a lot has to do with technology itself; each company/equipment is made for that specific type of technology. 3) A comment regarded the affects of the heavy winds in Palolo. A structural engineer will be hired, however, since the antennas will not be sticking out past the roof top itself, there should not be to much wind loading. 4) A concern regarded the amount of gauss of EMF (electro magnetic field) will it radiate. Basically, the cabinets will be housing the radios so there's no kind of emissions coming off the cabinet itself. All standards are determined by organizations like National Electric Code,

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Uniform Fire Code, Land Use Ordinance, etc.; and that area will be inaccessible to the public because of the height of the structure and the signal travels outward and does not travel down. 5) A question was raised regarding why in a gym area where people swim, play, etc. Fox said currently Cingular is servicing the community on Waialae Avenue, but because there is a demand for coverage farther back into the valley, the signals from the current service area quickly diminishes. 6) Yasutake was asked to comment on the matter, however, he declined to do so.

More comments followed: 1) Toni Robinson, East Honolulu District Manager, said the City is very interested in doing this type of arrangement and are doing it in several other areas around the island. They are currently in negotiations with Cingular. They are doing a good job of meeting the City's requests of negative or visual impacts; are using an area back of the pool unused by the parks; and would have to maintain that area. 2) Councilmember Kobayashi was asked for Council's position. She said there are several resolutions that came before the Council. Generally it's how the community feels about it, but she knows of only one that was rejected by Council. She also noted: there is no documentation of EMF; improves the quality of communications and also, brings in revenues to the City (\$3,000 depending on space). 3) Walther asked what is Palolo getting out of that? Kobayashi noted they are trying to work something out if the community is not opposed, as a benefit from the incentive. 4) Asuega was not real familiar about the language but was concerned about long-term health affects. She wondered if the Board had any documentation regarding EMF and she did mention that the antennas installed at Puu Wai Momi residential housing has been removed. 5) Hayes suggested table this discussion until the next meeting.

The discussion continued at length. 1) Fox noted there are hundreds of antenna sites all over the island; at hospitals, at elementary, intermediate, and high schools, at businesses, apartment buildings, etc. He thought that everyone would have been supportive of the proposal because of the design, thinking that visual impacts were the main concern. Fox understands if the Board needs more time, but would like to present this to City Council next month. He would also make himself more available to pass on any more information. 2) Walther requested to do random gauss readings for several days; and perhaps partner with HECO to use their antenna at the top of the valley. 3) Shackelford agreed to table the matter and lack the need to do more studies right now. 4) In summary, some of the issues the Board/community touched on were: sharing technology sites; a better rendering of what the antennas and equipment cabinet look like; EMF sensitivity; the ability to review the contract and the ability to give input; safety and health issues; whether Palolo is going to get any benefits; and whether it sets precedence. 5) Nekota spoke favorably in support the project. **Stanbro moved, Walther seconded to defer this discussion until next month.** Discussion followed: This would give the Board members the opportunity to gather information; Shackelford volunteered to gather the information. **The motion carried by unanimous consent.**

Proposed Draft Resolution for the "Dedicated Land Protection and Affordable Housing Funding" – Stanbro said there are a number of different proposals that the Charter Commission would be looking at, particularly a resolution he hopes to get Board support on. This resolution was forwarded on to get more public hearings. And what it will do is demand that the City and County spend 1% of tax revenue on affordable housing and land conservation, thus having that leverage to the voters to weigh-in on the matter. **Stanbro moved, Shackelford seconded to approve this resolution.** Discussion followed: 1) Walther asked Councilmember Kobayashi her position. She was not familiar with the details, but a Special Affordable Housing Committee is looking at it; they just don't know what the percentage they can afford. 2) Gonzales said the City is selling all these properties without stipulations whether there would also be affordable housing developments. Kobayashi noted that the City is no longer in the housing business, but whatever housing is sold, there has to be affordable housing. 3) In regards to Weinstein's question regarding the budget, Kobayashi guesstimated about \$3 million a year. **The motion carried, 10-0-1. Abstain:** Pentecost.

Walther left during this portion of the meeting (10 members present).

Residents' concern regarding conversion of the Toyota Dealership on Waialae Avenue into a Vehicle Service Center – Carol Lam, Glenn Takeuchi and Kevin Honda, representatives of Servco Pacific, presented Kaimuki Toyota's construction of a new service and parts facility. The property is zoned B-1, Neighborhood Business District and is located at 3282 Waialae Avenue. The existing building will be demolished. A new building would be constructed designed with a pitch roof to blend in with the current architecture of the residential neighborhood. The 8,700 square foot building would be located on the mauka side of the property, set back eight-feet from the property line allowing for an existing two-foot retaining wall. Landscaping will enhance the site along the property line of Waialae and 6th Avenues.

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The facility would: a) improve customer service for customers living or working in East Honolulu, b) conduct minor repairs and tire change; c) equip eight service bays open towards Waialae Avenue; d) have a full height hollow tile wall between the service bays and the service and parts offices; e) have 25 on-site parking stalls (including one handicapped stall); f) and employ approximately 20 employees (currently, there are 30 employees). Other equipment would include: bulk oil storage, oil water separator, above ground waste oil storage tank, seven above ground electric lifts, one alignment rack and a rotary air compressor.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. The new facility would handle only vehicle service, no sales service; and the open area fronting the facility along Waialae Avenue would be the parking area for the vehicles.
2. Chair Nakayama is concern with the traffic entering and exiting the driveway. However, Toyota met with the Department of Transportation Services regarding the bottleneck on 6th Avenue; but the Service Center would service by appointment only and about 35 vehicles per day. Not much of a traffic impact.

Concerned resident and adjacent neighbor, Simmy Mc Michael, said she was not notified about Toyota's intention. They have submitted an application October/November 2005; and she became aware while the property was being surveyed. Toyota is not being considerate of their neighbors and is doing as they please. She did some research on www.EPA.gov because of environmental health concerns (bio accumulative toxic). Some of the auto service hazards include toxic solvents, oils, batteries, etc.; not to mention three schools that neighbor Toyota. She feels that the permitting process should be halted and an EIS (Environmental Impact Statement) be prepared for the long-term affects.

Discussion followed: 1) Lam said would not think of putting their employees at risk and have to follow strict regulations. The property is zoned B-1 and was informed that an EIS is not applicable and this type of business is allowed. 2) Toyota's Service Care is by appointment only, not to exceed more than 35 vehicles per day; should not have much of a traffic impact. Customers can drop their vehicles off by 7 a.m. or by 6 p.m. the night before their appointment date, and pickup by 6 p.m.; hours of operation is from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Also, the service bay area is facing Waialae Avenue; a solid wall between the service bay area and the service and parts office, and an exterior wall on the mauka side bordering the property line. 3) Other concerns regarded the toxins and whether they are airborne. **Shackelford moved, Carroll seconded to encourage Toyota to have open participation with the neighbors and the schools. The motion carried by unanimous consent.**

OLD/OTHER BUSINESS:

Update on Drug Issue with Kipona Street Residence – Hayes reported the matter is undergoing investigation and HPD is unable to comment at this time.

Baha'i Center's Citation for Trash Dumped – Lynn Hollinger reported sending a thank you letter to Iwalani Sato, Department of Environmental Services for the plants received. The Bahai Faith, recently has not experienced large bulky items dumped fronting their property, however, items are now dumped on the small plantings. She would like a small truck to pick up the trash on that private lane.

9th Avenue Variance – This matter has been deferred.

RESIDENT'S ISSUES AND CONCERNS: None.

FUTURE PRESENTATIONS: Chair Nakayama highlighted on future presentations: 1) pedestrian and vehicular law changes by HPD; 2) renovation of the federal side of Palolo Housing by Dahlia Asuega; and 3) update on the Dae Won Sa Temple.

CHAIR'S REPORT, MAIL & ANNOUNCEMENTS: Chair Nakayama announced: 1) Olelo Broadcast Slot: for the Palolo Neighborhood Board meeting is aired on Channel 54; a new time slot is being worked out. For schedule and information, call 834-0007, ext. 133. 2) Bulky Trash Pick-Up: Take out by the morning of February 15, 2006 (third Wednesday of every month). 3) Other

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APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES DECEMBER 14, 2005: Hayes moved, Carroll seconded to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of December 14, 2005, as circulated. The Board recessed in January; there were no minutes.

TREASURER'S REPORT – NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2005; JANUARY 2006: Weinstein reported: 1) Operating Account reflected expenses for: November \$82.23; December \$44.43; and January \$30.80; leaving a current balance, at the close of January 31, 2006, of \$1,008.83. 2) Both the Publicity and Refreshment Accounts reflected no expenses; leaving current balances to-date at the close of January 31, 2006 for Publicity \$742.00; and Refreshment \$120.00. Being there were no objections, the Treasurer's Reports for November, December and January were filed.

ADJOURNMENT: Hayes moved, Owen seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

Submitted by

Marie Richardson
Neighborhood Assistant